



Conference Proceedings
Maryland Agricultural Educators Conference
August 1-4, 2022
Leonardtwn, Maryland

St. Mary's Fairgrounds & James A. Forrest Career & Technical Center

MONDAY, AUGUST 1ST

Welcome Meet and Greet Reception- Sponsored by MD Agricultural Teachers Association (MATA)

Paperless tablets, "Rocketbook" Demonstration- Diane Herndon, Frederick CTC

Each participant of the conference received their own Rocketbook. During the demonstration, they were able to learn with the presenter how to create notes and save to their computers or drives for further use within their program.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2ND

Professional Learning Tour Option #1: Shlagel Farms & Equipment Safety Campaign

Presenter: Carl Shlagel, son of farm owners

Host: Stacy Eckels, Southern High School

Recorder: Pat Beachy, Linganore High School

This is a third-generation family farm that has been in continuous production for 110 years. The family owns 140 acres and rent several hundred more. By using Best Management Practices (BMP) and following USDA Nutrient Management Plans, maintain their Food Safety Certification. Producing fruits and vegetables to supply grocery stores, produce brokers and sell at several farmer's markets in the D.C/Baltimore area. They provide consumers with the Community Supported Agriculture Program (CSA). This tour directly relates to Agri-tourism and agricultural awareness within their community. The family also raise turkeys and beef for market. Stacy Eckels provided information on the National Equipment Safety materials offered to teachers.

Professional Learning Tour Option #2- Shoreline Restoration

Presenter: Bruce Young, District Manager of the St. Mary's County Soil Conservation District

Host: Dorothy Birch, James A. Forrest Career and Tech. Center

Recorder: Kelly Bryant, Maurice J. McDonough High School

The purpose of the tour was to show how important it is to maintain healthy streams by hardscaping and landscaping with the right materials. Attendees took seining nets into the stream to conduct analysis on water quality and identifying plant and animals. The group measured the effects of erosion by the natural tides and human factors. This tour greatly enhanced teacher knowledge on water quality, erosion control practices, habitat monitoring and establishing proper landscape to ensure healthy streams entering into a watershed.

iCEV curriculum presentation- Sarah Shriner, Catocin High School

One way to meet the MSDE industry certifications is to utilize the iCEV curriculum. Frederick County Ag. Ed. Programs are currently piloting this curriculum and will be presenting data for approval. Teachers shared experiences using the materials. iCEV could potentially become a non-CASE option for school systems.

Professional Learning- “Marketing Your Program”

Presenter: Shelby Watson-Hampton, Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission

Host: Kelly Bryant, Maurice J. McDonough High School

Recorder: Casandra Foster, Washington County Technical High School

An expert at marketing, Shelby shared her tips and tricks in successfully promoting your program to the public. She shared how she uses social media campaigns to get her message across, to appeal to emotions and experiences. Visual presentations are the most important tool, using clear and crisp videos and images that convey the right message. This session provided useable tools that are affordable and easy to learn to create professional marketing in displays, flyers, and social media platforms to promote agricultural education.

Professional Learning- “Making the Green in Greenhouse”

Presenters: Ben Beale and Allan Leslie, Saint Mary’s County & Charles County UME Ag. Agents

Host: Kelly Bryant, Maurice J. McDonough High School

Recorder: Dene’ Flack, Harford Technical High School

The best way to maximize profits in growing plants and crops is to maximize their health. That can easily be accomplished by integrated pest management (IPM) and continuously monitoring and balancing the soil’s pH levels and applying the correct amount of fertilizers. The presenters shared various actual cases of losing money on plants, and how to correct using the best practice. They also conducted pH tests and showed how to use tools in the trade. These tools could be very useful in the classroom as mini lessons or added to pre-existing lessons.

Remarks from Robin McLean, National Association of Agricultural Educators, Region 6 Vice President

Robin connected with teachers in showing them how the NAAE can enhance their teaching with networking across the United States with other similar teachers and programs.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2022

Professional Learning Tour Option #1- Sheepfield Cut Flower Farm

Presenter: Ann Richards & Susanne Richards, Owners and Operators of the farming business

Host: Terrie Shank, Assistant Director of Secondary Education for MD Ag. Ed. Foundation

Recorder: Lori Mayhew, Damascus High School

The group toured a working cut flower farming operation from the fields, to processing, and creating floral arrangements. A truly hands-on experience to the world of growing and selling fresh flowers to the community. They proved the importance of properly treating post-harvest flowers for extending floral life.

Professional Learning Tour Option #2- Sotterley Plantation

Host: Kelly Bryant, Maurice J. McDonough High School

Recorder: Gabrielle Cory Graham, Huntington High School

A national historic landmark overlooking the Patuxent River. It is one of the last plantations open to the public for educational purposes, featuring a mansion dating back to 1703, 95 acres in fields, gardens, and riverfront. Participants learned the importance of environmental stewardship and was encouraged to find similar historic sites significant in their home area.

Professional Learning- “Creating Oyster Reef Balls”

Presenter: Bob Lewis, Executive Director of the St. Mary’s River Watershed Association

Host: Kelly Bryant, Maurice J. McDonough High School; Stacy Eckels, Southern High School

Recorder: Mackenzie Jones, Graduate from Cornell University

After being educated on preserving shoreline restoration, participants helped to create multiple oyster reef balls. After they cure, they will be placed in the St. Mary’s Watershed area to promote oyster populations and will also minimize shoreline erosion. This activity can easily be replicated in the classroom to demonstrate the importance of preserving the shorelines and tying in with biodiversity lessons.

Professional Learning- “FFA Crash Course”

Presenter: Leasa Gudderra, Gwynn Park High School

Host: Terrie Shank; Assistant Director of Secondary Education, MD Ag. Ed. Foundation

Recorder: Kelly Bryant, Maurice J. McDonough High School

Being the MD representative at a National FFA Teacher Ambassador, Leasa lead the group in becoming familiar with all the opportunities that exist with the ffa.org website, from SAE Grants, Grants for Growing, to Days of Service Mini grants. There are many resources that are free to FFA Advisors on the website. Many videos and instructional materials are available if you just know where to find them on the website.

Professional Learning- “National Chapter Award Program”

Presenter: Madeline Young and Buddy Haas, National FFA Staff via zoom call

Host: Terrie Shank- Assistant Director of Secondary Education, MD Ag. Ed. Foundation

Recorder: Tom Hawthorne, Linganore High School

The National Chapter Award program recognizes chapters for implementing strategies that enhance the student, the chapter, the school, and community. They discussed how to submit a winning application in being unique and complete by following the standardized rubric for scoring. The major deductions come from: replication of an activity, dates are out of range, or an activity that does not relate to the quality standard. Their best advise was to follow the rubric and you will have an outstanding application.

“Blueprint for Maryland Education” presentation and listening session

Presenters: MSDE: Mike Herschenfeld and Linsey Malid-Mayhew

Facilitators: Ashley Abuelhawa, Linganore High; Amanda Farmer & Nicole Michol, Clear Spring High and Richard Stonebraker, Frederick High School.

A new initiative for the Maryland Public School System, will address early childhood education, high quality and diverse teachers and leaders and provide college and career readiness for students. This will create major changes to all local communities and greatly effect agriculture education and other Career and Technical Education in the state. A listening session was held after the presentation for all to address concerns and provide feedback for the construction of the Blueprint.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4TH

Maryland FFA Updates- Terrie Shank, Executive Director

The 2022-2023 Calendar of Events were shared and changes to state activities.

Professional Learning- “Trout in the Classroom”

Presenter: Tom Giannaccinni, Chair of the Maryland Trout in the Classroom Program

Host: Kelly Bryant, Maurice J. McDonough High School

Recorder: Aaron Geiman, Westminster High School

The “Trout in the Classroom” program designed to connect students with their watersheds. It is a partnership between the Potomac-Patuxent Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the Department of Natural Resources. Teacher funding is available. He presented how to set up in the classroom, the labs to teach water quality, chemistry, animal, and wildlife science. There are so many opportunities for connecting with special need students, data collection to reinforce scientific research and monitoring water conditions. This workshop is helpful in studying aquaponics, hydroponics, wildlife management, natural resources and anatomy and physiology studies.

Professional Learning- “Global Teach Ag Network”

Presenter: Dr. Melissa Welsh, Assistant Clinical Professor of Agricultural Education at UMCP

Host: Terrie Shank; Assistant Director, Secondary Education for MD Ag. Ed. Foundation

Recorder: Jill Palmer, Graduate of the University of Maryland College Park

Dr. Welsh shared the educational opportunities in a Global agriculture online program. As global food, fuel and fiber systems continue to adapt, so must we as teachers to prepare our students for global communities of today and tomorrow. From your classroom, visit 40 countries and learn how agricultural challenges many face are approached in unique ways by a variety of agricultural teachers. Free admission into the Global Teach Ag Network by attending this session. The group learned how easily the system works by simulating their own network within the state by connecting with one another discussing diversity and inclusion efforts in the state. By participating in the GLAG online program, students and teachers can expand their knowledge worldwide.

Professional Development Recognition Luncheon

Keynote speakers: Charlotte Davis, Executive Director of the Rural Maryland Council

Colby Fergusen, Legislative Director for the Maryland Farm Bureau

Host: Quinn Martin, Boonsboro High School

Recorder: Sarah Welty, Oakdale High School

Charlotte addressed the purpose of the Rural Maryland Council in providing grants to invest in people, programs, and projects to improve the quality of life, preserve the cultural areas and rural communities. They are providing assistance in rural areas to improve things such as providing broadband and digital capabilities. Colby highlighted the need for middle school agriculture education programs across the state, and the shortage of high school agriculture educators. We need to be proactive in the making of the Blueprint for Maryland Public Schools, help to secure the established agriculture educations programs in the state.

Major Awards and Recognition:

Years of Service Recognition: 25 years- Terry Nuwer, Dorchester Career & Technical Center

30 years- Charles Gustin, Calvert High School

35 years- Teresa Stevens, Tuscarora High School

40 years- Thomas Hawthorne, Linganore High School

Naomi Knight, MD FFA Program Coordinator

Teresa Shank, MD FFA Executive Director and Assistant Director of Secondary Education for the MD Ag. Ed. Foundation

Outstanding Leadership Award: Quinn Martin, Boonsboro High School as the 2021-2022 MATA President

National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE) Awards:

Teacher Turn the Key - Kelly Bryant, Maurice J. McDonough High School

Outstanding Early Career Teacher- Stacy Eckels, Southern High School

Outstanding Teacher - Sarah Shriner, Catoctin High School

Outstanding Mentor - Sara Seiser, Middletown High School

Lifetime Achievement - Joe Linthicum, Retired teacher, Francis Scott Key High School

Maryland Agriculture Teachers Association (MATA) Awards:

Certified Professional Horticulturalist - Diane Herndon, Frederick Career & Technical Center

Agricultural Production & Management - Sarah Shriner, Catoctin High School

The 2022-2023 MATA Executive Board of Directors elected:

Past President- Quinn Martin, Boonsboro High School

President- Sarah Shriner, Catoctin High School

President Elect- Dr. Stacy Eckels, Southern High School

Secretary- Patricia Beachy, Linganore High School

Treasurer- Roy S. Walls, Jr.

Social Media Reporter: Amanda Farmer, Clear Spring High School

Website Reporter: Richard Stonebraker, Frederick High School

Membership Chair- Kelly Bryant, Maurice J. McDonough High School

MAEC 2022 Conference Planning Committee

Co-Chairs: Kelly Bryant & Stacy Eckels

Members: Dorothy Birch, Naomi Knight, Terrie Shank, Jessica Staelens

MAEC 2022 Review At A Glance



Shoreline Restoration Tour



Making the Green in Greenhouse



Sheepfield Cut Flower Farm



Professional Teacher Awards

MAEC 2022 Completed Hours of Instruction MSDE Creditation

			Tour		PL	PL	PL	Tour		PL	PL	PL	PL	PL	
			Tour #1	Tour #2	PL	PL	PL	Tour #1	Tour #2	PL	PL	PL	PL	PL	
			2	2	0.5	1	2	3	3	2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
First Name:	Last Name:	School/Organization:	Shlagel Farm	Shore Restore	iCEV Results	Market Tactics	Green H IPM	Flower Farm	Planta-tion	Oyster Reef	FFA Lead.	Nat. Chap.	Trout in Class.	Glob. AG	Total Hrs.
Ashley	Abuelhawa	Linganore High	2		0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Pat	Beachy	Linganore High	2		0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Dorothy	Birch	Forrest Center & Tech. Center		2	0.5	1	2		3	2	1	1	0	0	12.5
Kelly	Bryant	Maurice J. McDonough High		2	0.5	1	2		3	2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Rachael	Coffey	Cecil County School of Tech.			0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	1.5	1.5	13.5
Yvette	Connell-Albert	Fairmont Heights High	2		0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Gabrielle	Cory Graham	Huntington High	2		0.5	1	2		3	2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Stacy	Eckels	Southern High	2		0.5	1	2		3	2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Amanda	Farmer	Clear Spring High		2	0.5	1	2		3	2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Dene'	Flack	Harford Tech High		2	0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Cassandra	Foster	Washing. County Tech High	2		0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Aaron	Geiman	Westminster High		2	0.5	1	2		3	2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Leasa	Gudderra	Gwynn Park High	2		0.5	1	2		3	2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Thomas	Hawthorne	Linganore High	2		0.5	1	2		3	2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Diane	Herndon	Frederick Career & Tech		2	0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Mackenzie	Jones	Clemson University 21'		2	0.5	1	2		3	2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Quinn	Martin	Boonsboro High	2		0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Lori	Mayhew	Damascus High	2		0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Ted	McNett	Carroll County Public Schools		2	0.5	1	2		3	2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Nicole	Michol	Clear Spring High		2	0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Jill	Palmer	University of Maryland	2		0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Brittany	Rigdon	Cecil County School of Tech.			0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	1.5	1.5	13.5
Tonya	Rowe	Boonsboro Middle		2	0.5	1	2		3	2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Lee	Ruark	Smithsburg High	2		0.5	1	2		3	2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Sara	Seiser	Middletown High	2		0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Sarah	Shriner	Catoctin High		2	0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Jessica	Staelens	Patuxent High		2	0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	0	0	12.5
Richard	Stonebraker	Frederick High		2	0.5	1	2		3	2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Rachel	Summers	Urbana High		2	0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5
Melissa	Welsh	University of Maryland			0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	1.5	1.5	13.5
Sarah	Welty	Oakdale High		2	0.5	1	2	3		2	1	1	1.5	1.5	15.5

Thank you to our conference sponsors!



Delmarva Chicken Association



**Frederick Area Landscape
Contractors and Nurserymen's
Association**



iCEV Online CTE Curriculum



**Maryland Nursery, Landscape &
Greenhouse Association, Inc.**



Rural Maryland Council



**St. Mary's County
Farm Bureau**